

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Peter J. Davis (Reg. No. 36,119) on 8/10/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims:

Claim 1 line 9: Changed "using the correlator" to – using a correlator –.

Claim 15 line 9: Changed "using the correlator" to – using a correlator –.

Abstract:

Replace the Abstract with the following:

An enhanced method for displaying assessment and analysis of risks of adverse effects resulting from use of at least one substance of interest, comprising: identifying the at least one substance of interest; selecting a profile related to the safety of the at least one substance of interest, using at least one filter; analyzing the risks of adverse effects resulting from the use of the at least one substance of interest using at least one data mining engine; and displaying the results of the analysis of risks of adverse effects in a format that permits perception of correlations. Such a format is preferably at least one format selected from the group consisting of a radar display for display of correlations, a sortable table, and a sortable line listing and where the format contains elements linked to data regarding the adverse effects.

Drawings

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: **Figures 1-5, 12-15, and 17-21 will be replaced with clean, legible versions where the text is not on shaded backgrounds.** In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-28 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, as per MPEP - §2111.01 or In re Sneed, 710 F.2d 1544, 1548, 218 USPQ 385, 388 (Fed. Cir. 1983), none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims including "maintaining a consistent vocabulary by using a correlator to process a vector comprising a plurality of categorical terms" and "wherein the plurality of categorical terms sent to the correlator are therapeutic categories" (supported in the specification as filed at e.g., ¶¶67-68, 147, 154-157), as specified in independent claims 1 and 15.

All of the claims are tied to hardware as a "computer system" or a "computer-implemented method", and the hardware achieves the status of being a "particular machine" for the purposes of 35 U.S.C. §101 in being applied to the substantial practical application of displaying analyzed risks of either a substance of interest or a drug of interest.

The Examiner was persuaded by the arguments filed July 27, 2010.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Correspondence Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BENJAMIN BUSS whose telephone number is (571)272-5831. The examiner can normally be reached on at least Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday 9AM-5PM.

As detailed in MPEP 502.03, communications via Internet e-mail are at the discretion of the applicant. Without a written authorization by applicant in place, the USPTO will not respond via Internet e-mail to any Internet correspondence which contains information subject to the confidentiality requirement as set forth in 35 U.S.C. 122. A paper copy of such correspondence will be placed in the appropriate patent application. The following is a sample authorization form which may be used by applicant:

"Recognizing that Internet communications are not secure, I hereby authorize the USPTO to communicate with me concerning any subject matter of this application by electronic mail. I understand that a copy of these communications will be made of record in the application file."

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on 571-272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Benjamin Buss
Examiner
Art Unit 2129

/B. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 2129

/Donald Sparks/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit
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